

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for low pin count firmware hub recovery on a circuit board of a computer
2 system having a firmware hub comprising:
3 coupling a firmware hub recovery module having a firmware program to said circuit
4 board;
5 establishing communication between a central processing unit (CPU) and the
6 firmware hub recovery module via a low pin count (LPC) bus; and
7 booting the computer.

1 2. The method for low pin count firmware hub updating according to claim 1 further
2 comprising reprogramming said firmware hub.

1 3. The method for low pin count firmware hub updating according to claim 1,
2 wherein said establish communication between the central processing unit (CPU) and the
3 firmware hub recovery module includes assigning said firmware hub recovery module as a
4 firmware booting program.

1 4. The method for low pin count firmware hub recovery according to claim 1,
2 wherein said reprogramming said firmware hub includes reading the firmware hub recovery
3 module firmware program and writing the firmware hub recovery module firmware program
4 into the firmware hub to replace a program in said firmware hub.
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1 5. The method for low pin count firmware hub recovery according to claim 1, further
2 comprising powering said computer system before reprogramming said firmware hub.

1 6. The method for low pin count firmware hub recovery according to claim 3, further
2 comprising reassigning said firmware hub as the firmware booting hub after said firmware
3 hub has been reprogrammed.

1 7. The method for low pin count firmware hub recovery according to claim 1 further
2 comprising supplying power to said firmware hub recovery module by said circuit board.

1 8. A low pin count firmware hub recovery system for a circuit board of a computer
2 system having a firmware hub comprising:
3 a connector for coupling a firmware hub recovery module to said circuit board;
4 a central processing unit (CPU) communicating with said firmware hub recovery
5 module via a low pin count (LPC) bus; and
6 a jumper for enabling said firmware hub recovery module as a booting firmware hub.

1 9. The low pin count firmware hub recovery system according to claim 8, further
2 comprising firmware programming located on said firmware hub recovery module for
3 reprogramming said firmware hub.

1 10. The low pin count firmware hub recovery system according to claim 8, further
2 comprising a power supply to supply power to said circuit board.

1 11. The low pin count firmware hub recovery system according to claim 10, wherein
2 power is supplied to said firmware hub recovery module by said circuit board.

1 12. The low pin count firmware hub recovery system according to claim 8, wherein
2 said firmware hub recovery module includes an erasable programmable read only memory
3 (EPROM).

1 13. The low pin count firmware hub recovery system according to claim 8, wherein
2 said jumper is a strapping jumper.

1 14. A firmware hub recovery module for a circuit board of a computer system having
2 a firmware hub comprising:
3 a connector for coupling said firmware hub recovery module to said circuit board; and
4 a firmware hub module communicating with a central processing unit (CPU) via a low
5 pin count (LPC) bus, such that said firmware hub module is capable of functioning as a
6 booting firmware hub.

1 15. The firmware hub recovery module according to claim 14, wherein said firmware
2 hub recovery module is powered by said circuit board.

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